

ORDER  
Of the City Manager  
Morgantown, West Virginia

September 10, 2020

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the City Council in its Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-5, enacted September 1, 2020, the City Manager is authorized to impose gathering size limits, including limitations on certain gatherings deemed to create a hazard to public health, and clarifications or limitations on occupancy in restaurants and bars, as are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.


Since the adoption of Emergency Ordinance 2020-5, the rate of COVID-19 infection in Monongalia County has increased from 17.86 per 100,000 people to 37.33 per 100,000 people, and Monongalia County has been designated “red” on the Governor’s County Alert System. The increase in infections has coincided with numerous reports of large student gatherings at house parties failing to observe mask requirement and social distancing protocols. The notifications of public health violations include a report of a West Virginia University student diagnosed with COVID-19 hosting a house party along with 29 residents of the same house who had been ordered to quarantine to protect public health. In order to prevent the recurrence of these high-risk house party events likely to further spread COVID-19 infections, the following public health measures are adopted to address the COVID-19 Pandemic, and these measures are in addition to all other public health measures adopted by order of the City Manager:

1. Parties and social gatherings are prohibited at residential units, including their yards or parking lots, in the areas shown on the attached map, which is incorporated into this order by reference. This restriction does not limit residents and their family members from using their residential property, nor does it limit deliveries, maintenance, repairs, or other regular business at these properties. All other nonresidents are prohibited from gathering at these residential units.
2. Any Assembly Occupancy Permit for a residential property within the areas defined in Paragraph 1, above, is suspended during the effective period of this Order.
3. Any violation of this Article shall be deemed a public nuisance subject to summary abatement by the Chief of Police, or other law enforcement officer, including the Fire Marshal and deputy fire marshals. In addition, any violation shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of no less than \$25.00 and no more than \$500.00. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate violation.

Effective Date

This Order is effective beginning at 12:00 a.m. on September 11, 2020, and shall continue in effect until repealed or modified by order of the City Manager, or until it expires by operation of law.

Adopted this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Muzzarelli, P.E.  
City Manager